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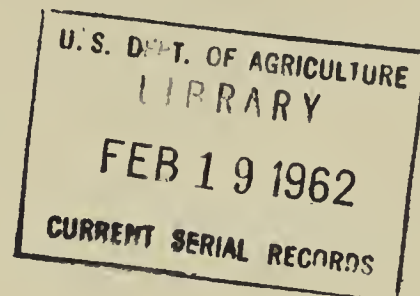
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TECHNICAL NOTES

LAKE STATES FOREST EXPERIMENT STATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE · · FOREST SERVICE

No. 615



1961 Forest Tree Seed Crop Averages Poor in the Lake States

The 1961 forest tree seed crop was, generally, the poorest since 1949, according to observations made at field centers of the Lake States Forest Experiment Station. One or more species had crop failures in each locality of the region and bumper crops were rare (see table on reverse side). Production was better in North Dakota and northern Minnesota than it was further east in the region. Compared to 1960, production was poorer everywhere except in North Dakota.

In northern Minnesota the two aspen species and balsam poplar had bumper crops in some localities, and the oaks and sugar maple had good crops. Failures were reported in some localities for white pine, the spruces, balsam fir, tamarack, and the birches. Most other reports ranged from poor to fair.

In northeastern Wisconsin, seed crop failures were reported for all conifers, the birches, and black ash. Red maple, American elm, and northern red oak had fair crops, and all other species, poor ones.

Reports indicated crop failures for the spruces, hemlock, sugar maple, yellow birch, and black ash in central Upper Michigan. American elm and red oak had good crops. All other species had poor to fair crops.

In Lower Michigan jack pine, the two aspens, and black cherry had fair seed crops. Poor crops or failures were reported for all other species.

In north-central North Dakota observers report good seed crops for boxelder, green ash, chokecherry, and caragana. The hackberry crop failed again this year, and all other species in this area had poor to fair crops.

Most seed collectors are interested primarily in the pines and spruces, so 1961 will be rated a poor seed year. Mast production for some wildlife species, however, was fairly good, except in Lower Michigan.

January 1962

PAUL O. RUDOLF, Research Forester

Table 1.--Forest tree seed crops in the Lake States, 1961

Species	Estimated percentage of a full crop ^{1/} in--				
	Northern	Northeastern	Central	Lower	North-central
	Minnesota	Wisconsin	Upper Michigan	Peninsula Michigan	North Dakota
Red pine	25-75	7	50	25	<u>2/</u> -
Eastern white pine	7-25	7	25	7	-
Jack pine	25-50	7	-	50	-
Ponderosa pine	-	-	-	-	7
White spruce	7-25	7	7	7	-
Black spruce	7-25	7	7	7	-
Balsam fir	7-50	7	50	7	-
Eastern hemlock	-	7	7	25	-
Northern white-cedar	25-50	-	50	7	-
Tamarack	7-50	-	-	7	-
Sugar maple	75	25	7	7	-
Red maple	-	50	75	25	-
Boxelder	-	-	-	-	75
American beech	-	-	25	7	-
Basswood	50	25	25	7	-
Yellow birch	7-25	7	7	-	-
Paper birch	7-50	7	-	7	-
Quaking aspen	75-95	-	-	50	-
Bigtooth aspen	95	-	-	50	-
Balsam poplar	95	-	-	-	-
American elm	-	50	75	25	25
Siberian elm	-	-	-	-	25
Hackberry	-	-	-	-	7
White ash	-	25	-	25	-
Green ash	-	-	-	-	75
Black ash	25-75	7	7	-	-
Bur oak	75	-	-	-	50
Northern pin oak	75	-	-	7	-
Black oak	-	-	-	7	-
Northern red oak	75	50	75	7	-
White oak	-	-	-	7	-
Black cherry	-	-	-	50	-
Chokecherry	-	-	-	-	75
American plum	-	-	-	-	50
Russian-olive	-	-	-	-	50
Caragana	-	-	-	-	75

^{1/} Percentage of a full crop classified as 0-15, failure; 16-35, poor; 36-60, fair; 61-90, good; and 91-100, bumper.

^{2/} A dash (-) signifies no report on this species.